

## Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from  
the general public on any subject—political,  
religious, educational, or social—  
as long as they do not contain any personal  
attack.All communications must be accompanied  
by the writer's name, not necessarily for  
publication, but as an evidence of good faith.Advertisements for insertion in the our  
next week must be in hand not later than  
Friday noon.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1905.

## The Fight Begun.

The Assembly caucus on Tuesday last resulted, as was anticipated, in the triumph of the State machine. The Essex members and several from Hudson withdrew, and will not support the caucus nominees for Speaker, Assemblyman Hobbing. The reason that he represents precisely what the Essex election declared against, boss rule and the alliance of corporations and the State machine. The fight against graft and all the forces of evil which have dominated the Legislature for years is better made right at the start. It has been too long the custom of members who were pledged to a certain policy of reform to cringe, placate, and eventually sacrifice their purpose, under various plea of party necessity. The only way to beat the devil is to face him and fight him from the start.

It was a natural but highly illuminative incident of the machine organization that the Passaic county votes for Robbins were obtained by a peculiarly disgraceful trade. The Passaic men voted for the machine candidate because they were promised that he would defeat the truck sewer legislation, which they oppose. What other corrupt bargains were made is not revealed, but it is safe to say there were not a few as bad in morals, if not so insulting to a vast community. This case alone makes Mr. Robbins's title to support invalid. No member of Assembly with a proper sense of moral obligation could now support him, whatever his previous attitude may have been.

The corrupt alliance which is now in control at Trenton is practically the same as that which this State has too long tolerated, and to which may be traced the worst wrongs committed against the rights of the people. It represents ring rule in politics; it is the embodiment of the corporate alliance with State government which has made the State Legislature a byword throughout the country; it is the triumph of the lobby; it is the deliberate attempt to defeat equal taxation. To bow to the rule of such vipers would be to sacrifice every sense of duty and honor. The Essex men who revolted represent this county in their action, and we believe it will be shown in time that they represent the majority in every county in the State.

For the work is only just begun. The people of Passaic county, of Morris county, of Union county, are moving, and the campaign for decent government will not stop. There are signs everywhere that the influences which swept Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York; which caused the insurance investigation in New York; which swept Essex county, and which all the nation is seeing with growing astuteness, are working throughout New Jersey, outside of the cities where they have first been manifested. The very machine at Trenton fears the result of its victory, and lies and dodges and panics to escape the agitation which it begins to feel.

The Republican Assembly caucus has made the Essex and Hudson reform a State issue, and we believe the work done last Tuesday is the beginning of the destruction of the shameful government of corporate corruption, which New Jersey has suffered so long.—Sun. Day Call.

## Firemen's Relief Association.

The "Bloomfield" Firemen's Relief Association Tuesday night elected officers as follows: President, William L. Johnson; vice-president, Thomas F. Cogan; secretary and treasurer, T. Howell Johnson. President Johnson appointed these committees: Finance, Seymour P. Gilbert, Thomas F. Cogan, George Hummel; auditing, S. P. Gilbert, Archie M. Heath, George Hummel. Resolutions were adopted commanding President Johnson and Treasurer Johnson for their faithful and excellent service for so many years. Although the receipts during the year were but \$325, the sum of \$1,025 was expended for sick benefits. There is a balance in the treasury of over \$4,000. The association will hold a big three days' fair in the new firehouse during March, in which the whole department will take an active part.

Attention is called to Bassbach the florist's advertisement in this issue of the CITIZEN.

## A Tax Problem.

Aiden Freeman gave a check to the city of East Orange for \$27.75, covering the assessment made against him for personal taxes. Mr. Freeman has never paid any taxes in East Orange as he never had any personal property which could be assessed. Mr. Freeman made this statement when he handed the check to Frank T. Curtis, one of the clerks in the office of the Receiver of Taxes:

"This is the first time I have had the pleasure of contributing directly toward the support of our city, and I feel that in this case I have in a measure doubly contributed. I got my tax bill in blank for me to swear to, and I went to see Assessor Whitman. I was not aware that I had anything in this State which was taxable, because the only property I own is in stock and such things in New York State. They are all subject to the regular tax there. Mr. Whitman informed me that he had been personally instructed by Major Lentz to be thorough, for he was anxious to have me pay taxes, and therefore we were thorough. At last Mr. Whitman decided to tax me on a loan of \$1,500 for which I hold a chattel mortgage. When I advanced this money to a friend it was necessary for me to borrow it on some of the stock for which I pay a tax in New York. I have to pay five per cent, on that loan and the man who borrows the money from me pays me six per cent, so you see the investment itself nets me just one per cent., or \$15. I had to pay \$37.75 for the privilege of loaning a friend \$1,500. The net loss to me is \$22.75, and in addition to this my friend pays a tax on the articles covered by my chattel mortgage. That is the law now, but it seems to me that there is something wrong with a law which brings about such results."

## A Massachusetts Idea.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: In question of law lawyers refer to Massachusetts reports as the best source of elucidation of knotty legal problems. In matters of life insurance agents assure us that the business of their company is conducted in accordance with Massachusetts standards and Massachusetts ways; and Massachusetts methods are quoted as standards in other things besides law and life insurance.

There is an indication now that the vexatious saloon question has been solved in Massachusetts and that the saloon will disappear from politics and another class of liquid beverages take the place of beer, wine and whiskey, and which can be sold without license. In a book entitled "The Physiological Aspects of the Liquor Problem," the writer says that 300,000 bottles of a certain sarsaparilla are annually sold in Massachusetts. It is a patent medicine, and analysts it is claimed, shows that it contains 21.5 per cent. of alcohol, and the same authority also says that some of the patent medicines that pass under the names of bitters, elixir compound and sarsaparilla contain a larger percentage of alcohol than the ordinary wines and beers and are consumed in the New England States in quantities so large that they must be claimed as beverages rather than as medicines. The sale of these beverages that are classed as patent medicines, the writer says, is greater in States that have prohibitory laws than in States not having such laws.

Now why not come out in the open and dispense these patent medicines on the saloon plan and thus do away with the modern saloon?

## QUERY.

## Bowling Scores.

The active bowlers of the Owl Bowling Club bowled for a gold medal last week at Leuthenauer's saloon, the medal being won by Gus. Ashby, who will hold it for one month when it will again be bowled for. The scores made are as follows:

G. Ashby..... 174 199 161 164  
A. Leuthenauer..... 168 174 188 187  
D. Lyall..... 154 144 161 128  
C. Hill..... 162 180 145 127  
J. Stander..... 149 138 112 131  
A. Gottsch..... 121 138 138 114  
W. Mueller..... 160 180 170 184  
D. Schlesbach..... 160 180 170 184

## Daughters of Liberty Election.

General Grant Council, Daughters of Liberty, elected the following officers Wednesday night: President, Mrs. Elizabeth Christian; associate councilor, Mrs. Belle Buddy; vice-councilor, Mrs. Margaret Lane; recording secretary, Mrs. William Haight; assistant recording secretary, Mrs. E. C. Ellor; financial secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Catlin; treasurer, Mrs. E. M. Westervelt; guide Mrs. Mary Matzner; inside guard, Miss Matilda von Eigen; outside guard, Charles Christian; trustee, Mrs. Elizabeth Catlin; representative to State council, Mrs. Kathryn Haight.

## Town Council.

The Town Council held a brief session on Monday night. The most important matter presented was the water department report by Dr. Harrison. The report showed upward of 135 additional service connections made since the town assumed control of the plant. The consumption of water for the past quarter year showed a decrease of 1,600,000 gallons compared with the corresponding period last year. The department showed a balance in favor of the town in the cost of making house service connections.

## A Socialist's Remembrance.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: In recent issues of the CITIZEN allusion has been made to an alleged political danger menacing society, namely, the material triumph of socialism. Why use the word danger? Readers of the CITIZEN who have given some thought to the political theories advocated by scholarly exponents of socialist doctrines can surmise two reasons for the use of such a term. One is that the writer is simply drawing upon his imagination; the other is that the writer may be possessed of a deeper insight into the significance of political doctrines than most of us are blessed with. We who are devotees of political socialism, and who are praying and working for the triumph of socialism, object decidedly to the use of the term "danger" as applied to our work, and beg leave to suggest a word that, in our opinion, better suits the situation, namely, "benefits." In other words, instead of society being menaced by a dangerous drift towards socialism, society is being blessed by a beneficial drift toward the high ideals of socialism. The indications of the drift are: The eradication from the body politic of the political boss. The boss system, wherever found, subjects individuals to bosses. The system further implies that the subjects must do no thinking of their own, but yield implicit obedience to the boss. Any system, political or otherwise, founded on the boss theory is akin to slavery.

Colbyism, as the recent uprising of Essex county voters has been termed, was a strike at the boss system, and a call to men to rise up and exercise their sovereign prerogative of independence in political thought and action.

In that respect Colbyism embodied a fundamental doctrine of socialism. Was it a dangerous or a beneficial drift?

Space will not permit of an extended dissertation on the attitude of socialism towards industrial problems, but suffice it to say that it has no admiration for a system that creates "captains of industry" to lord it over millions in the private ranks of industry. A species of slavery pervades the entire current system of industry, and it is the mission of socialism to eradicate the noxious germs of slavery from every phase of society, political, industrial and religious.

When Everett Colby called to the people of Essex county to rise in their might and take into their own hands the measures they could lawfully use for restraining and restricting corporate control of public utilities, and when President Roosevelt called upon the people of the entire country to exercise their right in respect to the great corporations that control the transportation facilities and the industrial facilities, both men were in accord with one of socialism's loftiest ideals. Is the drift dangerous or beneficial?

Does necessity require that society shall be impregnated with latent and concealed germs of slavery in order to be held together? Would absolute freedom and equality of the individual members of society result in such a multitude of tangents that society would become segregated and thrown into a state of confusion? For our part, as socialists, we believe that every semblance of slavery should be eradicated from every phase of society. We also believe in the flexibility of human nature to adjust itself to any conditions surrounding it, and, like Dr. Drummond, we regard man in some respects as a creature of environment, and it is the improvement of the environments that socialism aims at. Is the drift dangerous or beneficial?

The relation of socialism to the problem of taxation is another question too extensive to be examined in detail in an article like this. Let it suffice to point out one existing condition of the present day, namely, can the owner of a small plot of land and a small house escape taxation? The answer is apparent; he cannot. On the other hand, can the holder of a million dollars' worth of personal property escape taxation?

Any one at all familiar with taxation problems knows that the millionaire can and does escape taxation by taking advantage of laws that benefit only the rich. Socialism proposes to upset and destroy a system of taxation that permits such vagaries. In demanding a square deal for every man, President Roosevelt has pre-empted the keystone of socialism. Is the drift dangerous or beneficial?

## SOCIALIST.

## Macabees' Election.

Washington Tent No. 4, Knights of the Macabees, elected the following officers: Tuesday night: Past commander, Charles Halsted Lancaster; commander, Frank Alan Osman; lieutenant commander, John Gutherford Parkin; record and finance keeper, Peter Herbert Springfield; chaplain, George Hunt; physician, Jacob S. Wolfe; sergeant, Louis Crowell Thernall; master-at-arms, Bernard Ray Fuller; first master of guards, Noble Andrew; Bishop; second master of guards, Frederick Augustus Moffat. Trustee for three years, George Hunt. The offices of sentinel and piolet were left open until next month. Under command of the order refreshments and cigars were enjoyed. Sir Knight Paul Commander Frederick N. Moffat will install the officers-elect Tuesday night, January 2.

"Industrial Martyrs" is the title of an article from the pen of Lawrence Parry, in the January issue of the Technical World.

## Library Notes.

The bulletin boards which face each other in the entrance hall to Jarvis Memorial Library bear respectively four conceptions of the Madonna and Christ-child by Gerosa, Carlo Dolci, and two by Raphael, and the "Arrival of the Shepherds," a beautiful picture by Lerole, with an accompanying poem by DeLand. On the children's bulletin board is a list of books, articles and poems for Christmas reading, a Christmas song by Eugene Field, and a soft bit of coloring in the picture "The Story of Bethlehem."

There are some very attractive books upstairs, the most appropriate to the season being "Christie's Queen Christmas," by Olive Thorne Miller. Every boy who has a genius for making things will be absorbed in the "Boy Craftsman," and the girls who enjoyed freshman year at college with "Betty Wales" will be glad to continue their friendship with "Betty Wales, Sophomore," and smaller girls and boys will be delighted with the marvellous tale of "Queen Zixi of Lin" and the "Lovable Little Princess," by Mrs. Burnett. This last named book is beautifully illustrated.

Dr. Van Dyke is always delightful, whether he holds one's attention by prose or verse, essay or fiction. His two new books, "Essays in Application," and "The Spirit of Christmas," are especially readable, and attention is due his poem in Scribner's for December, entitled "The Swarming of the White Bees." It is full of graceful fancy, and is founded on the lost bees of Arlesius.

It is not too late to spend a dollar at the library for a New Year's card.

## How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Ocatarr that cannot be cured by Hall's Cough Cure. F. J. CHENERY CO., Toledo, O.

WE THE undersigned, have known F. J. Cheery for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him. WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Ocatarr Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.—A. D.

The Esse County Mutual Insurance Company.

The annual meeting of this Company for the election of directors and for the transaction of such other business as may come before it will be held at the Bank of America, No. 1 Broad Street, Bloomfield, N. J., on Monday, January 8, 1906, at four o'clock P. M.

J. H. DODD, Secretary.

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